

Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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SUBJ: COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA PRESS RELEASE

REF: USUN 2832

1. COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA MEETING AUG 13 RESULTED IN TODAY'S PRESS RELEASE (SEE BELOW) TEXT CLEARLY TAKES INTO CONSIDERATION BOTH COUNCIL'S BELIEF THAT IT WAS NECESSARY FOR IT TO COMMENT ON RECENT NAMIBIA DEVELOPMENTS, INCLUDING SWAPO TELEGRAM TO SYG, AND, IN LIGHT OF SWAPO'S INABILITY TO CONVOKE SC MEETING ON ITS OWN, NAMIBIA COUNCIL'S ADHERENCE TO EARLIER SYG AGREEMENT WITH AF'S TO CONVOKE NAMIBIA DEBATE IN SEPTEMBER. WE UNDERSTAND THAT COUNCIL WAS VERY FAVORABLY IMPRESSED BY NAMIBIA REPORTING IN AUG 13 "NEW YORK TIMES", ESPECIALLY EDITORIAL COMMENT ON FRONT PAGE ARTICLE.

2. COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA ALSO HAS SCHEDULED COMMEMORATIVE MEETING MARKING "ANNIVERSARY OF MOVEMENT FOR NAMIBIAN INDEPENDENCE", ON AUGUST 24. IT WILL BE CHAIRED BY PERMREP OF TURKEY, EGYPT OR GUYANA, AND WILL FEATURE NUMEROUS SPEAKERS.

3. TEXT:

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STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA
ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN TERRITORY

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA,

PAUL J.F. LUSAKA (ZAMBIA) ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT TODAY (TUESDAY, 14 AUGUST 1973), FOLLOWING A CLOSED MEETING OF THE COUNCIL YESTERDAY.

THE UNITED NATIONS COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA, IN THE SPIRIT OF ITS "LUSAKA DECLARATION" AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MANDATE GIVEN TO IT BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, CALLS UPON THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO DENOUNCE THE ILLEGAL OCCUPATION OF NAMIBIA AND THE OPPRESSION WHICH HAS ACCOMPANIED THE ILLEGAL PRESENCE OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN REGIME IN THAT COUNTRY. IT REAFFIRMS ITS SOLIDARITY WITH THE VALIANT PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF THE SOUTH WEST AFRICA PEOPLE'S ORGANIZATION OF NAMIBIA (SWAPO) AND THEIR LEGITIMATE STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM.

THE COUNCIL CALLS UPON ALL FREEDOM-LOVING PEOPLE TO GIVE ALL POSSIBLE POLITICAL, MORAL AND MATERIAL SUPPORT TO THE PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA WHO ARE STRUGGLING FOR FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE UNDER THE BRAVE BANNER OF SWAPO. IT EXHORTS THEM TO NOTE THAT SUCH ASSISTANCE WILL HASTEN THE LIBERATION OF NAMIBIA AND FREE THE WORLD FROM THE DANGERS OF A RACIAL WAR WHICH IS CERTAIN TO ESCALATE INTO A MAJOR CONFLAGRATION.

THE UNITED NATIONS COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA MET ON MONDAY, 13 AUGUST 1973, TO CONSIDER RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN NAMIBIA WHICH HAVE COME TO ITS KNOWLEDGE. THE INFORMATION GIVEN HAS BEEN CONFIRMED BY THE ACTING PRESIDENT OF SWAPO IN A COMMUNICATION WHICH HE ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

THE UNITED NATIONS COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA HAS NOTED WITH GRAVE CONCERN THAT -- CONTRARY TO ASSURANCES GIVEN TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL DURING HIS CONTACTS WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN REGIME IN RELATION TO FREEDOM FOR NAMIBIA -- FREEDOM OF POLITICAL ACTIVITY, PARTICULARLY THE HOLDING OF PUBLIC MEETINGS, WAS DENIED TO POLITICAL PARTIES WHICH OPPOSE THE BANTUSTAN REGIME. THESE ACTS OF POLITICAL REPRESSION WERE PER-
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PETUATED IN ATTEMPTS BY THE RACIST REGIME WHICH OCCUPIES NAMIBIA ILLEGALLY, TO IMPOSE BANTUSTAN STATUS UPON THE PEOPLE OF NORTHERN NAMIBIA, KNOWN AS OVAMBOLAND.

NOT SATISFIED WITH HAVING IMPOSED BANTUSTAN STATUS UPON THE AREA, THE PRETORIA REGIME SOUGHT TO STRENGTHEN ITS HOLD UPON THESE PEOPLE BY ESTABLISHING AN ASSEMBLY TO BE FILLED WITH THEIR PUPPETS THROUGH FANCIFUL "ELECTIONS" WHICH WERE COMPLETED ON 2 AUGUST. THE SO-CALLED "ELECTIONS" WOULD HAVE ENSURED THE PRESENCE OF REPRESENTATIVES WHO WOULD CARRY OUT THE EVIL MACHINATIONS OF THE ILLEGAL OCCUPIERS AND IMPLEMENT THEIR POLICIES AND PRACTICES OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION.

DURING THE MONTHS PRIOR TO THE "ELECTIONS" AND SINCE THEN, PRETORIA'S OCCUPYING FORCES HAVE CARRIED OUT REPEATED ACTS OF INTIMIDATION AND TERRORISM WITH BRUTAL VIOLENCE AND MASS ARRESTS AGAINST THE PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA AND THEIR LEADERS. THOSE COERCIVE MEASURES WERE USED BY THE OCCUPYING POWER IN THEIR EFFORTS TO COMPEL THE NAMIBIANS OF OVAMBOLAND TO PARTICIPATE IN ACTIVITIES DESIGNED TO ESTABLISH INSTITUTIONS WHICH WOULD CREATE DIVISION AND DISSENSION WITHIN NAMIBIA.

IN SPITE OF THE USE OF FORCE, OVER 98 PER CENT OF THE ELECTORATE REFUSED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCHEME TO FRAGMENT THEIR COUNTRY. THIS MUST BE REGARDED AS CONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE OF OVERWHELMING OBJECTION TO THE ILLEGAL OCCUPATION OF NAMIBIA AND THE DOMINATION OF ITS PEOPLE, AS WELL AS TOTAL REJECTION OF THE POLICY OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN RACISTS OF INSTITUTIONALIZING RACIAL DISCRIMINATION THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF BANTUSTANS.

IT MARKS THE UNYIELDING DETERMINATION OF THE PEOPLE TO PRESERVE THEIR NATIONAL UNITY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY EVEN IN THE FACE OF BRUTAL COERCION.

THE UNITED NATIONS COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA DRAWS ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT THE PERSISTENCE BY THE RACIST REGIME OF SOUTH AFRICA IN SEEKING TO MAINTAIN ITS ILLEGAL OCCUPATION
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OF NAMIBIA AND IMPOSING ITS DIVISIVE INSTITUTIONS IN THE FACE OF OPPOSITION BY THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA WILL MAKE NECESSARY INCREASINGLY REPRESSIVE AND INTIMIDATORY MEASURES BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN REGIME. TENSION HAS ALREADY BEEN INCREASED BEYOND MANAGEABLE PROPORTIONS. THE SITUATION HAS BECOME MORE HIGHLY EXPLOSIVE AND THE DANGER OF A MAJOR CONFLAGRATION IN THE TERRITORY, ENDANGERING PEACE AND SECURITY THROUGHOUT SOUTHERN AFRICA, HAS BEEN BROUGHT MUCH CLOSER.

THE UNITED NATIONS COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA REAFFIRMS ITS CONVICTION THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL SHOULD TERMINATE THE CONTACTS BETWEEN THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND THE SOUTH AFRICAN REGIME. IT SHOULD TAKE EFFECTIVE ACTION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER, TO COMPEL SOUTH AFRICA TO WITHDRAW IMMEDIATELY FROM NAMIBIA. SUCH WITHDRAWAL WILL DISSOLVE ALL THE PROBLEMS OF THE PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA AND THE DANGERS WHICH THE ILLEGAL OCCUPATION OF THE COUNTRY POSES FOR THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE ENTIRE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.

THE COUNCIL CONDEMNS:

(1) THE RECENT WAVE OF BRUTALITY AND REPRESSION AGAINST
THE PEOPLE AND THEIR LEADERS IN NAMIBIA;

(2) THE SOUTH AFRICAN REGIME'S PERSISTENCE IN OCCUPYING
NAMIBIA ILLEGALLY;

(3) THE IMPOSITION OF INSTITUTIONS OF RACIAL DISCRIMIN-
ATION ON THE PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA.

THE UNITED NATIONS COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA DECIDES TO CALL ON
THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO CONDEMN THE SOUTH AFRICAN REGIME'S
OPPRESSION OF THE PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA AND TO ENSURE THE
IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS. IT ALSO
CALLS ON THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO TAKE EFFECTIVE MEASURES
TO COMPEL SOUTH AFRICAN TO END IMMEDIATELY ITS AGGRESSION
AGAINST THE PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS THROUGH
ITS ILLEGAL OCCUPATION OF NAMIBIA.
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